

of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117^{th} congress, second session

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

No. 99

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was for the common good. And call us from called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TAKANO).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.,

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK TAKANO to act as Speaker pro tempore on

NANCY PELOSI. $Speaker\ of\ the\ House\ of\ Representatives.$

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following

Holy God, we humble ourselves and pray to You, yielding our wills to Yours, and giving ourselves over to Your authority. We pray that You would be merciful in Your discipline.

Search our hearts and melt all hardness that You find therein. Liberate us from the bonds of hostility that prevent us from living lives of love and compassion.

Inspire us also to humble ourselves and to unite in prayer as a nation. Search the soul of our society and speak into the pain and suffering. Hold us accountable to the countless ways we are inclined to stray from Your will.

Then silence the voices within and among us which vie for power and strive to eliminate cooperation. Remind us of Your desire for mutual and respectful dialogue and of our responsibility to respect those with whom You have called us to serve.

Call us not to listen for our own counsel but to heed Your own. Call us out when we hasten to judge the differences of opinion, rather than work

our intransigence into Your transcendent presence that we would experience Your grace and be transformed by Your spirit.

May we serve the people—Your people—with kindness and wisdom this

In Your divine name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support reinstating the assault weapons ban.

The AR-15 has become the weapon of choice for shooters looking to kill as many people as possible in as little time as possible. Researchers estimate that if we still had a Federal assault weapons ban we would see 70 percent fewer mass shooting deaths.

The number of mass shootings has skyrocketed since the original assault weapons ban expired in 2004. These weapons have been used in the deadliest shootings in our history from Sandy Hook to Parkland to Uvalde. They are weapons of war that have no place in our community.

This is the amount of damage which is done by one bullet fired by an AR-15 as it enters the body. That is the bullet. That is the size of the damage. The bodies of kids in Uvalde were riddled so badly with wounds that their parents had to use DNA tests to identify their own children. One family identified their child by their shoes—their shoes.

These weapons don't just kill. They slaughter, and they decimate. They are designed for death and maximum destruction. They have no place in our schools or in our streets or anywhere in our communities.

We know that the original assault weapons ban worked. We have to reinstate it before more innocent lives are

REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II VETERANS

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this week we mark the 78th anniversary of the D-day landing in northern France.

Three years ago, I had the honor of visiting the Normandy coastline to see the Utah and Omaha beaches, to see the memorial where the 2nd Ranger Battalion made their heroic stand, and to see the graves of the men who did not come home and who are now buried in the French countryside.

Those who fought in Normandy and across France on the road to victory in

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Europe came from all walks of life. Those individuals were bound by a common goal: to stand for freedom and to liberate the oppressed. They were part of our Nation's Greatest Generation. And now as they grow older and move on to their eternal salvation, we must continue to remember their courage and to remember their sacrifice.

Their legacy of service and bravery is at the heart of what makes the United States the greatest nation on Earth.

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the commonsense gun safety legislation my colleagues and I have introduced this week. The horrific shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde are a painful reminder that action to stop gun violence is long overdue and that Republicans' decades of stonewalling is an intentional decision to allow Americans, including children, to continue to be slaughtered.

In particular, the GOP and its gun policy puppet master, the NRA, is obsessed with assault weapons. As a marine, I ate, trained, patrolled, and slept with an assault weapon for 4 years. These are weapons of war designed to kill humans. There is no constitutional defense for civilian ownership of assault weapons even under the District of Columbia v. Heller interpretation of the Second Amendment, and there is certainly no rational explanation for why a mentally disturbed young man should be able to purchase a weapon of war along with high-capacity magazines with no questions asked.

The GOP needs to stand up to the NRA and its dangerous and juvenile obsession with assault weapons. Otherwise, this slaughter will continue.

REMEMBERING JAMES "JIMMY" GUY BURKE, JR.

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Jimmy Guy Burke, Jr., a loving father and husband, servant, leader, and veteran from the great State of Georgia.

Jimmy was born in Savannah in 1935 and grew up in Tybee Island where he lived and served throughout his life. He was devoted to his family and community and showed pride in being a true Irish Savannahian.

His Irish heritage was very close to his heart, as shown by him serving as a member of the St. Patrick's Day Committee for 65 years. He was even selected to be the distinguished grand marshal of the St. Patrick's Day parade in 1993.

He served in many ways, such as being the founding member of the Irish Heritage Society, being elected to the Tybee Island City Council, and serving as the president of the Tybee Island Republicans. Jimmy also served his country in the United States Marine Corps Reserve for 8 years and the 117th Georgia Air National Guard for 3 years.

He will continue to smile down on Savannah and Tybee Island through his family and his noble service to the Irish community.

Jimmy will surely be missed by all who knew him.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PELL GRANT PROGRAM

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Pell Grant Program.

Fifty years ago, Congress amended the Higher Education Act by creating the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant to provide direct financial aid to low-income students so that they would have the same opportunities and the same access to higher education as others.

Since then, the Pell Grant has been a cornerstone investment in the lives and futures of nearly 80 million students across the country.

In my district, more than \$123 million in Pell grants have been awarded to students just last year. Think of the difference that has made.

As a former educator myself, I know that cost is one of the largest barriers to higher education, and here in Congress I will continue to do everything in my power to support the Pell Grant Program and ensure it continues to break down that very barrier.

THE BUCK STOPS AT THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, a survey by The Wall Street Journal found that 83 percent of Americans describe the state of the economy as poor or not so good. President Biden's approval ratings are in free fall, and the American people are correct in holding him accountable for skyrocketing prices.

Since entering office, President Biden's policies of Big Government spending and attacks on American energy have weakened America's economy and placed enormous burdens on working families.

My Republican colleagues and I have called on President Biden to reverse course. The President should take immediate steps to unleash American energy, stop the out-of-control spending, and focus on the real issues that are hitting Americans in their pocketbooks.

President Biden is completely out of touch. What is worse, our children and grandchildren will be responsible for paying for his mess. President Biden must stop blaming others for his failures and start embracing the solutions that are in the best interests of the American people.

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, yesterday during the debate on guns, Representative JORDAN and a few others on the Republican side said that the Second Amendment and the right to guns was a God-given right.

I don't know anything in the Old Testament where God spoke to guns. I do know He spoke to Moses and gave him the Ten Commandments and said nothing about AR–15s or guns. But He said: Thou shall not kill.

In the New Testament I don't think Jesus said anything about guns or AR-15s, but He did say: You shall beat your swords into plowshares.

We are all created in the image of God, and I am sure God would not like His powers, His name, and His authority used to endorse the killing of young people through weapons that he was allegedly giving, AR-15s. God would look askance at that type of logic.

God bless America.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA'S NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S TENNIS CHAM-PIONSHIP

(Mr. GOOD of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate student athletes from the University of Virginia for their success in winning the 2022 NCAA Division I Men's Tennis National Championship.

Each year the NCAA supports student athletes from roughly 1,100 institutions of higher learning sponsoring 90 championships in 24 sports. Over half a million student athletes from across the United States compete each year for a national championship.

Winning an NCAA championship is truly a remarkable achievement and something deserving of celebration.

On Sunday, May 22, 2022, the many years of hard work and perseverance of these UVA student athletes paid off. They defeated Kentucky 4-0, securing the program's fifth NCAA Division I Men's Tennis National Championship, all coming in the last 10 years.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to congratulate these student athletes and the University of Virginia for this great achievement.

BIDEN INFLATION

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)